Britain's finest cigarette,
just the best tobacco,
skilfully blended, expertly packed.

Hawes Inn, South Queensferry *from the original by J. G. Rennie*

THE AGE OF ELEGANCE . . .

Remembered boyhood reading of R. L. Stevenson's "Kidnapped" adds indefineable romance to the historic name of the Hawes Inn, which stands today at the eastern approach to the Royal and Ancient Burgh of South Queensferry just as King George IV saw it on his visit there in 1822. So also an indefineable romance attaches to the Scotch Whisky which is blended and bottled in this ancient Burgh—the blend with all the mature elegance of age.

"King George IV"

OLD SCOTCH WHISKY

THE DISTILLERS AGENCY LIMITED EDINBURGH SCOTLAND

Spode

by WOLF MANKOWITZ

Collectors' guide to 'Choicest' tea-ware

Silver-shape bone china tea-pot with cobalt blue ground: 1804

IN 1770 Josiah Spode, a 29-year-old potter who had been a star apprentice of the great Staffordshire master Thomas Whieldon, raised a mortgage and took over his first factory. Within a few years Spode's improved earthenware had established a business that has prospered to the present day.

The first innovation introduced by Josiah Spode was a style of transfer-printing in blue under the glaze which, by its soft quality and careful blending with coloured enamels, achieved a unique harmony of design and colour. Furthermore Spode's improved method of printing enabled attractive tea-ware to be sold comparatively cheaply.

But it was Spode's achievements in the manufacture of porcelain which make him most noteworthy. For several years he experimented with Cornish china-clay and china-stone. He added to it calcinated bone eventually producing a porcelain of fine quality, transparent and durable—the first bone-china. Spode's formula has remained the basis of bone-china ever since, and his finest products remain a standard for present-day manufacturers.

From 1800 onwards the factory's work is invariably marked. Although some Spode reproductions of Meissen and Worcester have had their marks removed by grinding, identification is still possible. Spode's paste was considerably softer than that of Meissen, and the colours used in Worcester reproductions are brighter than those of the originals. Early Spode transfers are traditionally English in style; landscapes in panels surrounded by coloured borders, and floral subjects. In porcelain tea-ware rich colours are characteristic. Dark blues, reds, yellow, green and lavender used in conjunction with highly painted flowers, fruit and birds, make Spode china one of the richest of English wares.

NOTE TO COLLECTORS It is fairly easy to find uncommonly good examples of this fine, colourful china. Only a little less easy than it is to find that uncommonly good Brooke Bond tea, 'Choicest'. This fragrant blend of Ceylon and Assam teas makes a worthy partner to your fine Spode tea-ware. At 2/- per quarter it is undoubtedly the best value in tea, today.

A 10" dinner plate typical of Spode's blue transfer decorated work; scene after Mayer's Views in Asia Minor: *1820*

Bone china tea-cup and saucer painted with flowers on solid gold background: 1804

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